

Greetings and Updates From Mayor Miner

Happy Spring, Long Lake! It's great to hear birds chirping again and residents emerging from hibernation. It has been a long winter, so I'm looking forward to getting outside again on a regular basis, and I am sure you are as well!

A significant development since I wrote in our last newsletter is that we hired a new Fire Chief for our Long Lake Fire Department (LLFD). The vacancy occurred when our former Chief left to work for the City of Orono around the first of the year. Chief Mike Heiland (pronounced "highland") began employment on March 27 and has joined us after recently retiring from a long career at the Excelsior Fire District, where he retired from the position of Assistant Chief. We're fortunate to have him lead the LLFD and bring his wealth of experience to the position. A good time for residents to meet Chief Heiland will be at the LLFD's All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes & French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, April 23 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm at Station 1. Please join us to meet members of the LLFD as well as your neighbors and other community members.

Speaking of the LLFD, our situation with the City of Orono regarding the future of fire service in our communities continues. As noted, Orono hired our former Fire Chief to begin setting up their own Fire Department. They've also purchased a 2009 ladder truck and are preparing it for future use. We have had ongoing discussions with the Orono City Council about any partnership we may have with them in the future regarding fire service. Orono staff are preparing a needs assessment that'll be presented to their City Council on June 12. We'll continue to keep you posted on this issue.

In February, your City Council approved the 2023 Pavement Improvement Plan project. This year's proposed improvements are all in the area of Nelson Lakeside Park and include a mill and overlay for both Symes and Mill Streets. Also, the paved parking lot at Nelson Lakeside Park and Lake Street will undergo a full-depth reclamation, and a new pavement section will be added. Finally, the gravel boat trailer parking lot will be paved, and the existing bituminous trail between the paved parking lot and the fishing pier will be rehabilitated with a two-inch overlay. The estimated cost of the project is \$270,000, and it is targeted to be completed in late summer. To see a current map of road conditions in our City, go to our website and click on the Pavement Management Plan & Franchise Fees tab at the top.

Enjoy spring, and I hope to see you at the LLFD Breakfast on April 23rd or elsewhere around the City!!

Charlie Miner, Mayor

City Contact Information

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CITY ASSESSOR

Southwest Assessing
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HENNEPIN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Dispatch/Roads
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**To Report Any Incident or
Emergency, Dial 911**

Upcoming Events

ANNUAL LONG LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT PANCAKES & FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 23 / 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Don't miss the annual "All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes & French Toast Breakfast" at Long Lake Fire Station 1, 340 Willow Drive. Enjoy pancakes, french toast, sausages and coffee a-plenty. There's no charge for admission. Attendees are welcome to make a donation if they choose - all donations received will benefit the Long Lake Firefighters' Relief Association.

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

Saturday, April 22 / 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

The annual Spring Cleanup Day for disposal of appliances, household items, e-waste recycling, and construction debris will be held at the neighboring City of Orono Public Works Facility (2700 Kelley Parkway) on Saturday, April 22 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Long Lake residents are welcome to participate, but must bring ID providing proof of Long Lake residency (MN driver's license or ID card). For a complete list of acceptable items and event information, please see the [Spring Cleanup Day flyer](#) posted on the City's website at www.longlakemn.gov, or contact City Hall to request a copy.

SPRING LEAF PICKUP DATES

Tuesday, May 2 and Tuesday, May 9

City licensed refuse haulers annually provide spring and fall curbside leaf pickup dates at no cost to residents. Your refuse hauler will pick up leaves and yard waste on Tuesday, May 2 and Tuesday, May 9. **If your pickup is missed, contact your garbage hauler.** Residents are encouraged to set out their bagged leaves (no brush) early in the morning on those days. **Leaves must be bagged in compostable bags only, no other bags may be accepted.** City ordinance prohibits the burning of leaves or grass clippings; and it is illegal to put leaves from your yard into the street.

Welcome to New Fire Chief Mike Heiland

We're excited to announce that Mike Heiland has been hired as the new Fire Chief of our Long Lake Fire Department! Chief Heiland comes to us after serving as a 30-year member of the Excelsior Fire District where he recently retired at the rank of Assistant Chief. He'll bring a wealth of knowledge and experience from serving a neighboring fire department to our own LLFD. He had overwhelming support from the interview panel who interviewed him in the final round of interviews, which included the full Long Lake City Council, Interim Chief Shane Gardner and Deputy Chiefs Cody Farley and Ryan Gonsior. Chief Heiland was formally appointed to his position by our City Council on March 21 and began his employment with us on Monday, March 27.

Chief Heiland and his wife, Helen, are long time residents of Excelsior (he was born and raised there) and enjoy spending time cruising out and about on their pontoon boat on Lake Minnetonka during the warmer weather. He actually has history of his own with our Department – years ago, the Station 2 facility we now operate in Navarre/Orono was under the territory of the Excelsior Fire District. Chief Heiland served as Chief of that station when it was known as Excelsior Station 3. He was also a Firefighter I / Firefighter II instructor and trained some of our current Long Lake Fire Department firefighters.

Please join us in warmly welcoming Chief Heiland to the City of Long Lake!

We'd like to take a moment at this time to recognize and share our appreciation for Assistant Chief Shane Gardner (who acted as Interim Fire Chief) and Battalion Chief Chris Adams for their invaluable assistance with performing Fire Chief duties over the last few months. We're truly grateful for their excellent work while our hiring process was underway.

Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an invasive tree pest that attacks and kills ash trees, is the biggest current threat to our tree canopy. There's over a million ash trees in Hennepin County, and 100% of them are threatened by the Emerald Ash Borer (our Public Works staff has observed signs of EAB infestation in some Long Lake trees). Take the following steps to decide how to manage ash trees on your property:

- Identify and inventory ash trees – how many you have, and where they're located
- Determine if your ash trees are worth saving
- Work with a certified arborist to treat trees that are worth saving
- Monitor and make a plan for removal for trees that aren't being treated

Learn more about Emerald Ash Borer, how to identify ash trees, signs of Emerald Ash Borer infestation, and tips for hiring a certified arborist online at hennepin.us/ashtrees.



Public Works Updates

HYDRANT FLUSHING

April 17 – 21, Weather Permitting

The Public Works Department will be flushing hydrants the week of April 17 through April 21, weather permitting. You may notice discoloration and rust particles in your water during this process. If you notice discoloration, letting your faucet run for a short time should clear your water lines. Wait to wash light clothing until you notice the water has cleared. Should you have any questions, please email sdiercks@longlakemn.gov

STREET SWEEPING NEWS

At their April 4 meeting, the City Council authorized the purchase of a clean, low hours, used 2000 Elgin Eagle model F, a former MnDOT mechanical sweeper that staff had found for sale at an equipment services vendor. Moving forward, street sweeping will occur in both the spring and fall as well as on an as needed basis throughout the year. More frequent sweeping will help keep leaves, debris, sand/gravel, etc. out of storm drains and away from flowing into our water bodies.

Garbage Carts Reminder

As a reminder, garbage carts/containers are required to be stored up near your house or garage door. Garbage carts do need to be placed at your front property line for curbside collection on garbage service dates, but shouldn't be placed there prior to 6:00 pm the night before collection, and carts/containers need to be returned to their storage location by 10:00 pm on collection day.

Please "Doo" The Right Thing!

City ordinance makes it illegal not to pick up after your pet waste deposited by a dog on any street, sidewalk, gutter, park, trail or other publicly owned property. It's easy to "doo the right thing" - when walking your dog, carry a plastic bag or other suitable materials for disposal of pet waste with you. Collect the waste and dispose of it in a garbage container. Remember that pet waste is unsightly and presents an infection risk to other pets and people from bacteria and parasites found in pet waste.